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October 7, 2004

**VIA FACSIMILE**

To: Examiner Philip Sobutka  
Group Art Unit No. 2684  
U.S.P.T.O.

Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306

From: Frederick E. Cooperrider

Facsimile No.: (703) 761-2375 (76)

Re: Enclosed Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/440,163  
Attorney Docket No.: 323810/98  
Our Reference: NEC.142

Dear Examiner Sobutka:

Enclosed is an Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116, responsive to the June 18, 2004 Office Action, which should place the above-referenced case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,



Frederick E. Cooperrider  
Registration No. 36,769

FEC:jkm  
Enclosure

Total No. of Pages Transmitted: 16